

DLIFLC receives additional funding for language proficiency enhancement

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The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC) will receive an additional \$362M over the next five years in order to implement the Proficiency Enhancement Program (PEP). The program aims to improve the language proficiency of DLIFLC graduates as well as provide training support to linguists in the field.

The complete implementation of the PEP program, already underway at the Institute in some language departments, will call for the hiring of some 560 new faculty members to help increase the language proficiency of DLIFLC students. Another 300 language instructors will be hired to teach the increasing population of students at the Institute. The funding will also be used to create new language curricula as well as expand overseas immersion training programs.

The budget granted an additional \$7.9M for various language related projects. A sum of \$1.68M was earmarked for the Global Online Support System (GLOSS), a web-based language training system used by both military and government linguists to enhance their proficiency.

One million dollars was designated for an Online Automated Diagnostic Assessment of Language Proficiency, a tool to be used around the world by linguists in order to more accurately measure their strengths and weaknesses in a given language and thereby focus on their specific language training.

The Institute will invest \$2.125M for DLI language laboratory acquisition to upgrade its language listening laboratories, while another \$2.1M will be used to continue operating the language broadcast channel Satellite Communications for Learning (SCOLA). SCOLA broadcasts news programs in some 80 languages across the world and is available in the offices of the Department of Defense and many schools and universities in the United States.

One million dollars will be used for automated delivery of the Defense Language Aptitude Battery test (DLAB). The DLAB test is a diagnostic test used to determine a person's potential to learn a foreign language. This funding will also be used for research on the next generation of the aptitude tests.

A separate sum of \$80M will be used to fund the construction of three new classroom buildings at the Presidio of Monterey. Construction will begin in 2008 and will be completed by 2012, thereby providing an additional 200 classrooms and offices. Some DLIFLC students are currently in classes conducted at leased facilities in Monterey.

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